(b) Measures to prevent and discourage travelling on roofs of the trains include exhibition of notices and posters at station premises, announcements through public address system at important Railway stations highlighting the dangers of roof travelling, checks by TTEs and prosecution by RPF/GRP of offenders detected during raids/checks. Capacity is also augmented to the extent possible by providing additional coaches or running additional trains when there is extra demand for accommodation on trains during festivals etc.

Ex-gratia pension scheme to retired railwaymen

2993. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received requests from various Retired Railwaymen's organisations for extending Ex-gratia pension scheme to those surviving retirees who had retired under Provident Fund scheme prior to introduction of pension scheme; and

(b) whether it is a fact that the IVth Pay Commission had recommended grant of such pension to retirees and dependents of deceased P.F. retirees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Requests from various Retired Railwaymen's Organisations have been received for payment of ex-gratia to those employees who retired under the Contributory Provident Fund Scheme prior to 31.3.85 with basic pay upto Rs. 500/- per month. Those persons who had retired prior to introduction of the Pension Scheme are already covered under the Scheme of ex-gratia pension introduced in 1967.

(b) The IVth Pay Commission had recommended grant of ex-gratia payment at the rate of Rs. 300/- per month to such employees as had retired under the Contributory Provident Fund Scheme prior to 31.3.85 with pay upto Rs. 500/- per month. The Commission had also recommended grant of ex-gratia payment at the rate of Rs. 150/- p.m. to widows and dependent children of deceased Contributory Provident Fund beneficiaries.

Functions, services of the Container Corporation of India Ltd.

2994. SHRI ASHOK NATH VERMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the objectives, functions, services of the Container Corporation of India Ltd. a Government Enterprise; and

(b) whether Container Corporation of India Ltd. assigned, appointed agents in Delhi and adjoining areas for booking and delivery of domestic/International cargo container, if so, the names and addresses of such agents, entitlement of commission, facilities and incentives offered to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Container Corporation of India (CONCOR) has been set up to provide multimodal logistics support for the country's international and inernal trade and commerce. It aims to provide composite infrastructural services in a competitive environment at least cost to the society by creating a network of modern terminal facilities for container handling, cargo aggregation and distribution.

(b) No, Sir.

New schemes and projects of Tamil Nadu

2995. SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of the schemes and projects assured by his predecessor in the National Front Government when he visited Tamil Nadu during that period; and

(b) what is the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) State Government of Tamil Nadu has requested for the following projects:

(i) New Line from Palani to Chamrajnagar *via* Dharapur, Tiruppur and Sathyamanglam (145 km.); and

(ii) New Line from Hogenekkal to Tiruvannamalai via Dharmapuri-Morappur, Harur and Theerthamalai (170 km.)

In addition, it was suggested that a Corporation, on the lines of Konkan Railway Corporation, be set up for construction of railway lines in Tamil Nadu.

(b) Due to acute constraint of resources it has not been found possible to take up the projects suggested at (i) and (ii) above.

Regarding the Corporation, this too could not be done owing to the directives of the Planning Commission and Ministry of Finance that no more Corporations be set up.

Granting of promotion to post of Clerk

2996. SHRI PASUMPON THAKIRUTTINAN:
SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleastd to state whether Government propose to promote the educationally qualified class IV staff of the Traffic Department belonging to the Medical Classification C.1. and C.2. such as Traffic Inspector Peons, Commercial Inspector Parcel Porters, Goods Shed Porters, Sealers etc. to the post of Office Clerk, in view of stagnation in their cadres?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): 33-1/3 per cent of the vacancies in certain Group 'C' posts including Office Clerks are earmarked for promotion, by selection, of Group 'D' staff for whom no regular avenue of promotion exists, promotion groups being identified by the Zonal Railways on the basis of broad affinity of work.

Recognition of Trade Unions

2997. SHRI K. K. VEERAPPAN:
SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state whether Government are considering a proposal to enact a law to grant recognition to Railway Trade Unions based on elections with a view to ensure recognition to the Trade Union which really represent the workers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): There is no proposal under consideration of the Ministry of Railways.

Granting promotion to the motor vehicle drivers etc. in the Railway

2998. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:
SHRI TINDIVANAM G. VENKATRAMAN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal to designate as works Ministries and grant the scale Rs. 1400-2300 to the Motor Vehicle Drivers and Motor Trolly Fitters etc., in the various departments in the Railways as is being done in the case of other Artisans such as Carpenter, Brick Layer, Painter etc;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) and (b) No proposal to designate Motor Vehicle Drivers and Motor Trolly Fitters as 'Works Ministries' is under consideration